(12) UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2 214 214 (13) A

(43) Date of A publication 31.08.1989

(21) Application No 8829613.2

(22) Date of filing 20.12.1988

(30) Priority data
(31) 15588 (32) 21.01.1988 (33) IE

(51) INT CL⁴
E06B 1/08

(52) UK CL (Edition J)
E1J JGD

(56) Documents cited
None

(58) Field of search
UK CL (Edition J) E1J JGA JGD JGE
INT CL⁴ E06B

(71) Applicant
Christopher Jackson
Crossnacole, Kiltegan, County Wicklow, Ireland

(72) Inventor
Christopher Jackson

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service
Wilson, Gunn and Ellis
41-51 Royal Exchange, Cross Street, Manchester,
M2 7BD, United Kingdom

(54) Wooden architrave

(57) An architrave has an outer wall (31) and two side walls (32,33) perpendicular to it. The inner wall has a first face (34) perpendicular to the side walls (32,33), a third face (36) which is angled acutely from one side wall (33) to the other side wall (32) and forms an arris (37); and a second face (35) parallel to the side walls (32,33), which connects the first face (34) with the third face (36). In use, the third face (36) is connected to a door frame (13) such that the second face is in the plane of the door frame (13) and the arris (37) rests on the wall plaster (12). As the door frame (13) shrinks due to evaporation, the face (34) is pulled inwardly causing the architrave (30) to pivot about the arris (37).

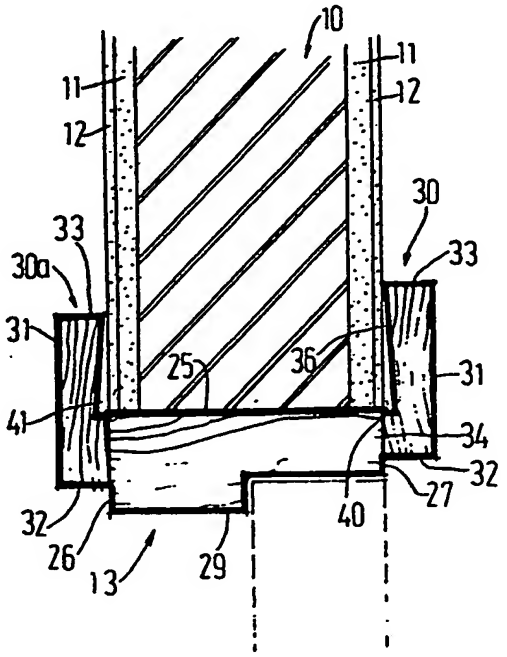

FIG.2

GB 2 214 214 A

2214214

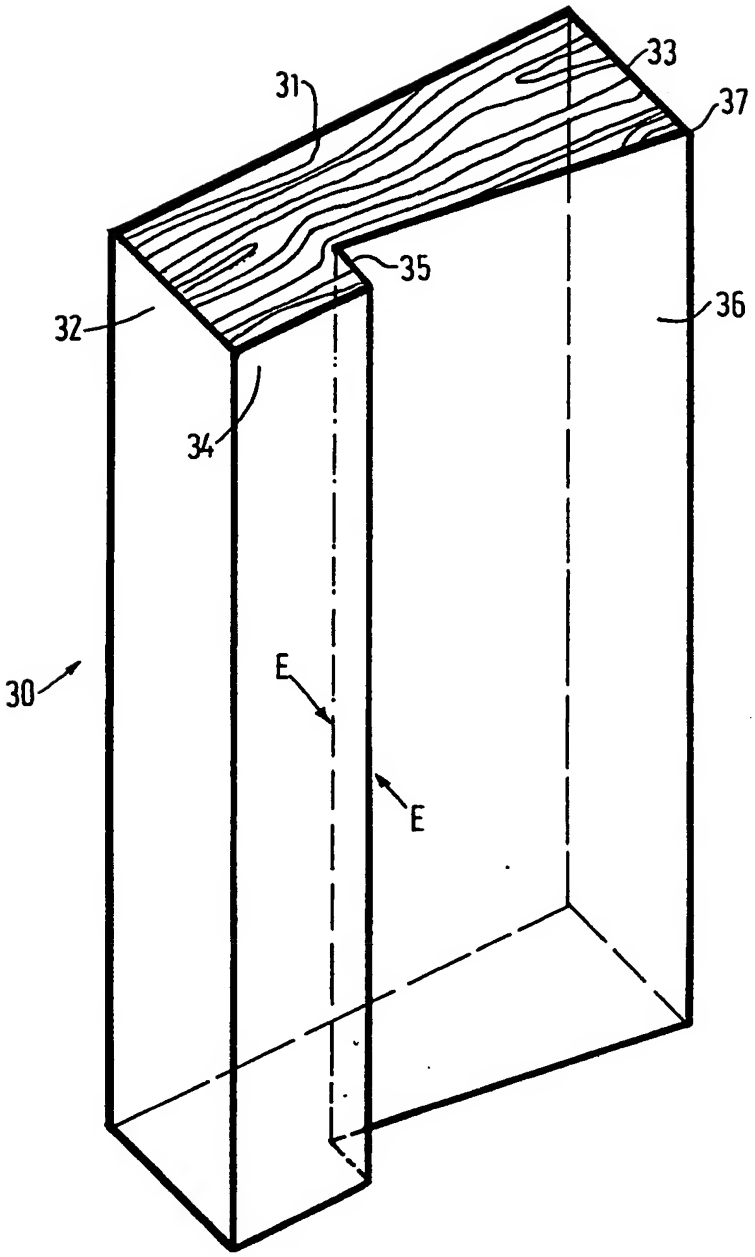

FIG1

2214214

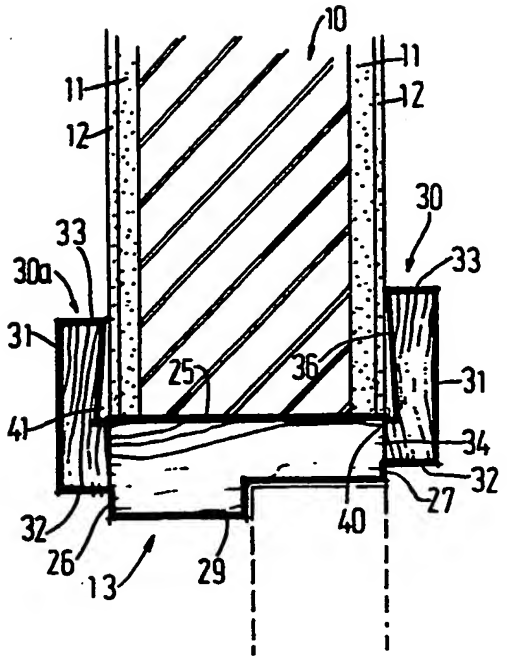

FIG.2

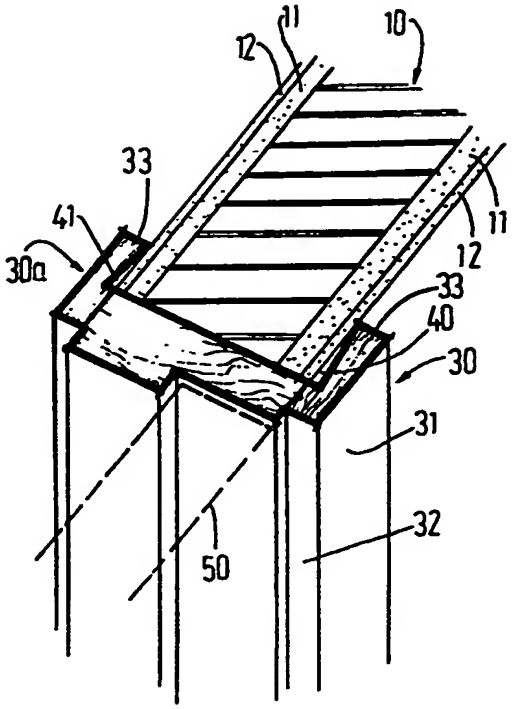

FIG.3

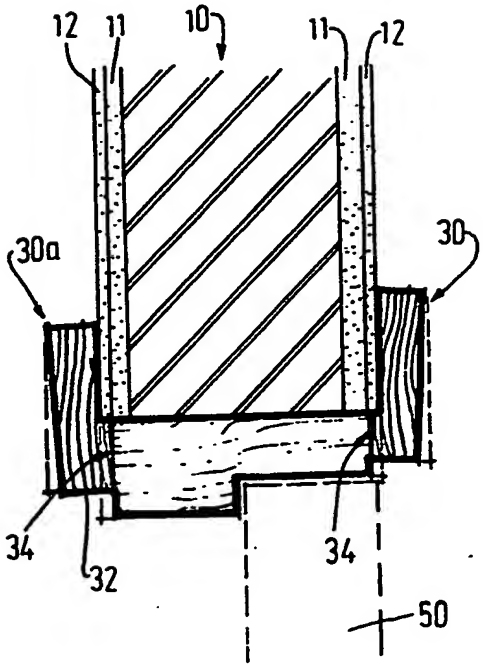

FIG.4

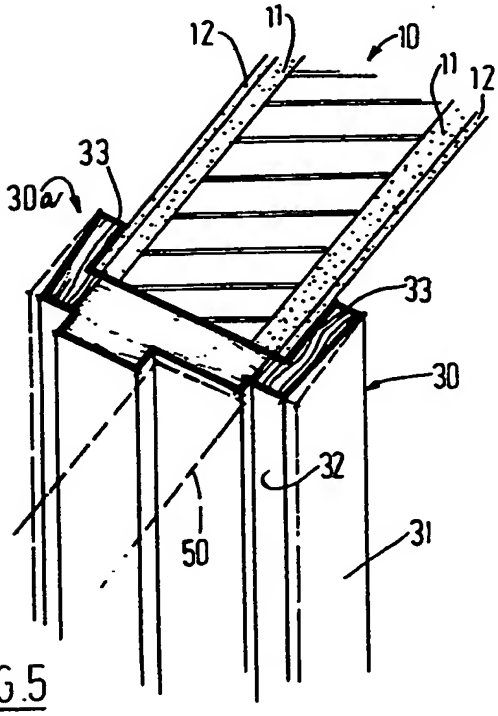

FIG.5

2214214

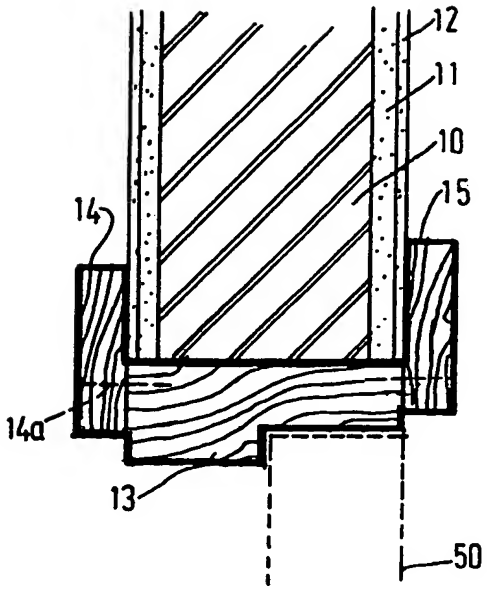

FIG.A

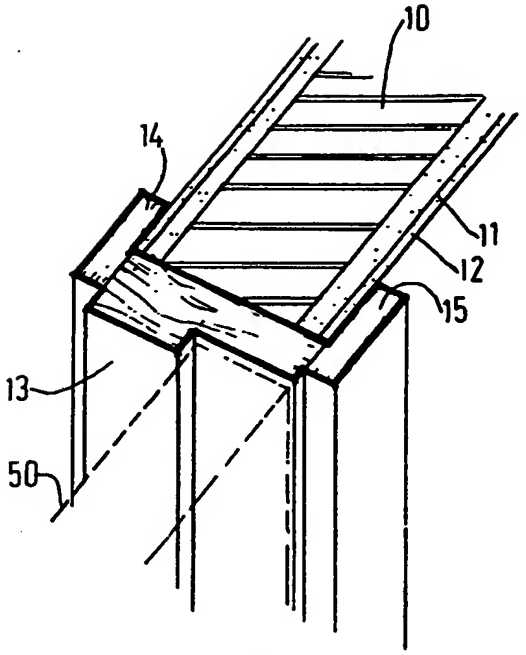

FIG.B

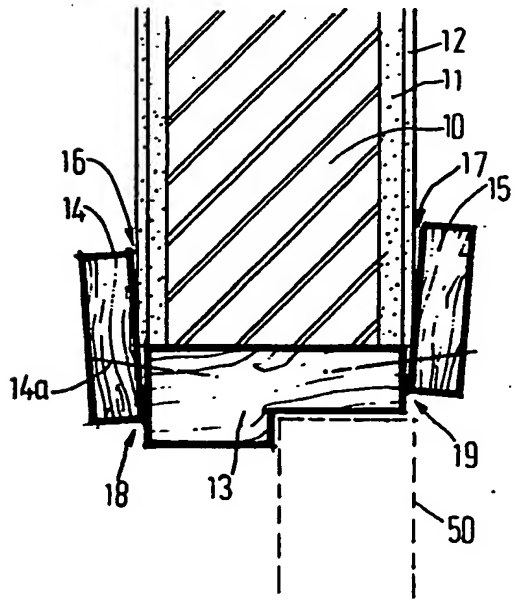

FIG.C

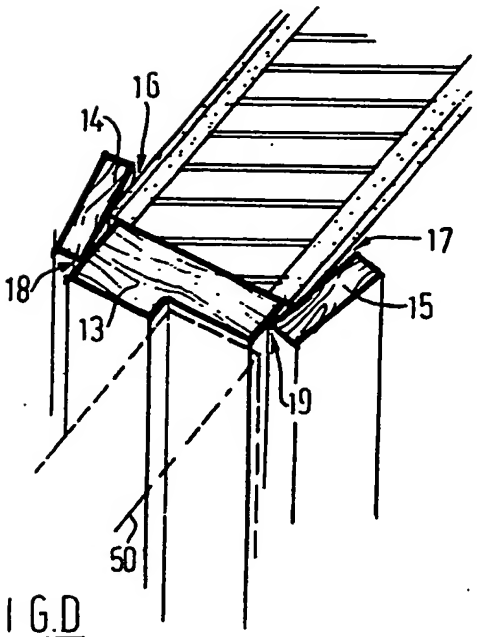

FIG.D

"IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO AN ARCHITRAVE"

This invention relates to an architrave. In particular, the invention relates to an architrave for use in conjunction with a door frame.

In mounting a door frame onto a wall, the interfaces between the wall and the frame is concealed by architraves.

In Figures A-D of the attached drawings, there is shown the known prior art relating to an architrave/door frame construction. In Figures A and B there is shown respectively a plan view and a perspective view of the construction just after installation. In Figures C and D there is shown respectively a plan view and a perspective view of the same construction after a relatively short period of time following installation.

In Figures A-D can be seen a wall 10 having a plaster finish 11 and a hard wall plaster finish 12 thereon on both sides of the wall 10. A door frame 13 is mounted in a conventional manner relative to the wall 10. A door 50 is shown in dotted outline. To conceal the interfaces between the door frame 13 and the wall, two conventional architraves 14 and 15 are fixed to the door frame 13 by means of nails 14a. Occasionally, the architraves 14, 15 are also fixed to the wall 10.

Following installation, and after a period of time depending on the relative humidity of the building or room in which the construction is housed, the door frame 13 shrinks (see Figures C and D). The shrinkage can be significant particularly if, in the first instance, the timber of the door frame 13 has not been properly seasoned and, secondly, if the central heating system of the building is operative at relatively high temperatures. The shrinkage of the door frame 13 causes each architrave 14, 15 to pivot about respective corners of the wall 10 thereby generating respective gaps indicated by arrows 16, 17. The appearance of these gaps renders the purpose of the architraves 14, 15 virtually ineffective.

If the architraves 14, 15 are also nailed to the wall 10, gaps (arrows 18, 19) may form between the door frame 13 and the architraves 14, 15. In some instances, it has been found that where the architraves 14, 15 are very securely fixed to both the wall 10 and the door frame 13, the architraves 14, 15 crack.

It is an object of the present invention to overcome these problems.

The invention, therefore, provides an architrave which comprises a first or outer wall; a first side wall substantially perpendicular to the outer wall; a second side wall substantially perpendicular to the outer wall; and a second or inner wall; said inner wall having a first face, a second face and a third face; and wherein the first face is substantially perpendicular to the first side wall; the third face is angled acutely relative to the second side wall and forms an arris

therewith; and the second face is disposed transversely relative to the first face and the third face, and connects the first face with the third face.

Preferably, the first side wall and the second side wall are substantially of equal length.

Preferably, the second face is disposed substantially normal relative to the outer wall.

Preferably, the arris and the second face are substantially co-planar.

Preferably, the outer wall has either a substantially flat profile or a decorative moulding.

Preferably, the second face has a width of between 3mm and 5mm.

The invention also relates to a method of mounting an architrave according to the invention over the interface between a door frame and the end face of a wall on which the door frame is mounted which method comprises locating the first face of the architrave on the door frame and locating said arris of the architrave on a side face of the wall so that the second face of the architrave lies in a plane which is located on the door frame side of the end face and which is in parallel spaced apart relationship relative to the end face, and the third face is substantially out of contact with the side face of the wall; and fixing the architrave to the door frame.

The invention will be understood in greater detail from the following description of a preferred embodiment thereof given by way of example only and with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:-

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an architrave according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the architrave of Figure 1 of the drawings shown in situ at installation;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of Figure 2 of the drawings;

Figure 4 is a plan view of the architrave of Figure 1 of the drawings shown in situ subsequent to installation; and

Figure 5 is perspective view of Figure 4 of the drawings.

Referring now to Figures 1-5 of the drawings and in particular to Figure 1 thereof, there is shown an architrave 30 according to the invention which architrave 30 is of unitary construction and comprises a first or outer wall 31; a first side wall 32; a second side wall 33; and a second or inner wall having first, second and third faces 34, 35 and 36 respectively. The outer wall 31 is shown with a flat profile. However, it will be appreciated that, as this is the wall which will be exposed following installation, the wall 31 may comprise a decorative moulding.

The side walls 32, 33 are substantially perpendicular to the wall 31; the side wall 32 is substantially perpendicular to the face 34; and the face 36 is angled acutely relative to the side wall 33.

Where the side wall 33 meets with the face 36, an arris 37 is generated. The arris 37 is preferably in the same plane as the face 34. Accordingly, the slope of the face 36 relative to the side wall 33 is determined by the depth of the second face 35 which is located transversely relative to the first face 34 and the third face 36. The third face 36 tapers off relative to the outer wall 31 from the arris 37 to the second face 35. Essentially, therefore, the faces 34, 35 and 36 constitute the second or inner wall having, in cross-section, a Z-shape.

In a preferred embodiment, the first and second side walls 32, 33 are of equal length and the second face is disposed substantially normal relative to the outer wall 31.

In use, the architrave 30 is mounted as follows. Having constructed a wall 10 having a plaster finish 11 and a hard wall plaster finish 12 provided on both sides thereof, a door frame 13 is mounted in a conventional manner onto the end face of the wall 10. A door 50 is shown in dotted outline.

Referring in particular to the Figures 2 and 3 of the drawings, it will be noted that the width of the door frame 13, which is wooden, is substantially equal to the width of the wall 10 including both plaster finishes 11 and both hard wall plaster finishes 12. The door frame 13 has an inner wall 25, two side walls 26 and 27, and an exposed wall 29. A first architrave 30 according

to the invention is mounted or attached to the door frame 13. The first face 34 abuts the side 27 of the door frame 13 and the second face 35 lies in a plane located on the door frame side of the end face of the wall 10. The arris 37 rests on the hardwall plaster finish 12. The architrave 30 is held in position by nails (not shown) similar to those shown in Figure A of the drawings. It will be noted that by virtue of the sloping face 36, a gap indicated by arrow 40 is generated between the architrave 30 and the wall 10. Similarly, an architrave 30a according to the invention is mounted in a similar fashion to the side 26 of the door frame 13 and a gap indicated by arrow 41 is generated. Accordingly, the architraves 30, 30a are mounted over respective interfaces between the door frame 13 and the wall 10.

If the door frame 13 shrinks in width due to moisture evaporation therefrom (see Figures 4 and 5) the face 34 will be pulled in the direction of shrinkage and the architrave 30 will pivot about the arris 37. As the face 36 moves inwardly towards the wall 10, the gap 40 will get smaller and the face 35 will move over the plaster finish 11 and hard wall plaster finish 12 without disturbance. It will be appreciated that when the door frame 29 has shrunk to its minimum width, the third face 36 may be intimate contact with the hard wall plaster finish 12. To ensure that the architrave 30, 30a would accommodate the expected maximum shrinkage experienced by a door frame having a width of about 140 mm, it has been found that the second face 35 should have a dimension E-E of about 3 mm and no greater than about 5 mm. It will also be appreciated that when the door frame 13 has shrunk, the outer wall 31 will no longer be in parallel spaced apart relationship relative to the wall 10. This should not present a problem particularly if the outer wall 31 is moulded to a suitable shape.

The architrave 30a functions in a similar manner to the architrave 30.

It is important to note that when fixing the architraves 30, 30a, free movement thereof relative to the wall 10 is essential. Accordingly, nailing the architraves 30, 30a to the wall 10 should be avoided and fixing of the architrave 30, 30a should be to the door frame 13 only.

The main advantage of the architraves 30, 30a according to the invention is that all times regardless of the width of the door frame 13, at least the arris 37 of each architrave 30, 30a will be in intimate contact with the hard wall plaster finish 12 and the gaps 18, 19 shown in Figures C and D of the drawings will be absent. Furthermore, provided the architraves 30, 30a are only affixed to the door frame 13, no cracking of the architrave 30, 30a will occur during or following shrinkage of the door frame 13.

It will be readily appreciated that while the present invention has been described with particular reference to an architrave for use in conjunction with a door frame, the invention may also be readily used in relation to skirting boards and for cover slips for wall or ceiling panelling.

The invention is not limited by or to the specific embodiment described which can undergo considerable variation without departing from the scope of the invention.

CLAIMS:

1. An architrave which comprises a first or outer wall; a first side wall substantially perpendicular to the outer wall; a second side wall substantially perpendicular to the outer wall; and a second or inner wall; said inner wall having a first face, a second face and a third face; and wherein the first face is substantially perpendicular to the first side wall; the third face is angled acutely relative to the second side wall and forms an arris therewith; and the second face is disposed transversely relative to the first face and the third face, and connects the first face with the third face.

2. An architrave as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first side wall and the second side wall are substantially of equal length.

3. An architrave as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the second face is disposed substantially normal relative to the outer wall.

4. An architrave as claimed in any of claims 1-3 wherein the arris and the second face are substantially co-planar.

5. An architrave as claimed in any of claims 1-4 wherein the outer wall has a substantially flat profile.

6. An architrave as claimed in any of claims 1-4 wherein the outer wall comprises a decorative moulding.

7. An architrave as claimed in any of claims 1-6 wherein the second face has a width of between 3mm and 5mm.

8. An architrave substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as illustrated in Figs. 1-5 of the accompanying drawings.

9. A method of mounting an architrave as claimed in any of claims 1-8 over the interface between a door frame and the end face of a wall on which the door frame is mounted which method comprises locating the first face of the architrave on the door frame and locating said arris of the architrave on a side face of the wall so that the second face of the architrave lies in a plane which is located on the door frame side of the end face and which is in parallel spaced apart relationship relative to the end face, and the third face is substantially out contact with the side face of the wall; and fixing the architrave to the door frame.

10. A method of mounting an architrave as claimed in any of claims 1-8 substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as illustrated in Figures 2-5 of the accompanying drawings.

Published 1989 at The Patent Office, State House, 66/71 High Holborn, London WC1R 4TP. Further copies may be obtained from The Patent Office.
Sales Branch, St Mary Cray, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RD. Printed by Multiplex techniques ltd, St Mary Cray, Kent, Con. 1/87